[*English*]

Polavaram Irrigation Project in A.P

3020. SHRI DHARMA BHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take up the Polavaram Irrigation Project in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the stage at which it is pending with the Union Government;

(c) the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the steps likely to be taken by the Government for the implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d). The Polavaram Dam and left bank canal project and Polavaram right bank canal project were received for technoeconomic appraisal in Central Water Commission in April, 1983 and March, 1985 respectively. It was observed that the project lacked studies on water availability, conjunctive use of ground water, segmentation, naivigation and soil surveys. Concurrence of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh Governments for submerging their areas had also not been obtained. The project also needed clearance from environment and forest angles. The State Government was, therefore, requested to submit a modified report. The modified report submitted by the State Government in 1990 , for an estimated cost of Rs. 3030 crores was found to be only an updated report and the observations of appraising agencies were not complied with. In consultation with Central Water Commission, the State Government has drawn time bound programme for compliance of the observations. Clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations. In the absence of modified report and finalised Eighth Plan proposal, implementation schedule cannot be firmed up.

[*Translation*]

STD Facility to Commercial Suburbs in Gazipur, U.P.

3021. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to proveded S.T.D. facility to some commercial suburbs of Gazipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the facility is likely to be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir, as Gazipur is already having S.T.D. facility with access Code 0548; and there is no other exchange in the suburbs of Gazipur.

(b) and (c). Not applicable Sir.

[*English*]

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh.

3022. SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop/modernise the telephone exchanges in Himachal Pradesh during Eighth Plan Period;

(b) if so, the details thereof?